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Attorney Docket No. 32100-1013

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)		
Robert C. DOWNS)	Group Art Unit:	To be assigned
)		
Serial No.:)	Examiner:	To be assigned
To be assigned)		
)		
Filed:)		
Filed herewith)		
)		
For:)		
METHOD AND APPARATUS)		
FOR PERFORMING MULTIPLE)		
PROCESSING STEPS ON A)		
SAMPLE IN A SINGLE VESSEL)		

San Diego, California 92101
March 16, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant makes the below-listed documents of record in the above-identified application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not a representation that the information cited is effective as prior art to the application or is material to patentability.

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Express Mail Service (Label No. EL 709 079 355 US) on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Box PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: March 16, 2001

Signature:

Gregory P. Austin
Gregory P. Austin

Patent Documents

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,060,022 (Pang et al.). issued May 9, 2000;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,620,898 (Yaremko et al.), issued April 15, 1997;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,578,269 (Yaremko et al.), issued November 26, 1996;
4. U.S. Patent No. 5,114,858 (Williams et al.), issued May 19, 1992;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,330,916 (Williams et al.), issued July 19, 1994;
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,902,549 (Mimura et al.), issued May 11, 1999;
7. U.S. Patent No. 4,927,545 (Roginski), issued May 22, 1990;
8. U.S. Patent No. 5,308,506 (McEwen et al.), issued May 3, 1994;
9. U.S. Patent No. 5,366,896 (Margrey et al.), issued November 22, 1994;
10. U.S. Patent No. 5,925,514 (Layne et al.), issued July 20, 1999;
11. U.S. Patent No. 5,968,731 (Layne et al.), issued October 19, 1999;
12. U.S. Patent No. 6,068,393 (Hutchins et al.), issued May 30, 2000;
13. U.S. Patent No. 5,789,168 (Leushner et al.), issued August 4, 1998;
14. U.S. Patent No. 5,830,657 (Leushner et al.), issued November 3, 1998;
15. U.S. Patent No. 6,162,399 (Martinell Gisper-Sauch), issued December 19, 2000;
16. U.S. Patent No. 5,769,775 (Quinlan et al.), issued June 23, 1998;
17. U.S. Patent No. 5,730,697 (Auchinleck), issued March 24, 1998;
18. U.S. Patent No. 5,622,819 (Herman), issued April 22, 1997;
19. U.S. Patent No. 6,133,019 (Herman), issued October 17, 2000.

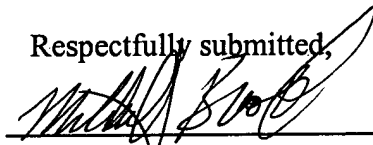
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Copies of the above-listed documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate), are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that these documents be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office in examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. It is also respectfully requested that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication, in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Although it is believed that no fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortages in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-0410 in the name of Baker & McKenzie.

Respectfully submitted,



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